

*The following is derived from a report to his general by the chaplain who escorted Dave Roever to the U. S. Air Force and Army military installations in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Cypress and Afghanistan in January 2003:*

16 Jan 03

SUBJECT: Trip Report for 5-14 Jan 03

- A. At each location Mr. Roever spoke to a large gathering of troops, usually in the base theater. He also visited the major work areas. With humor and compelling passion, he shared his spellbinding story of his experiences in Vietnam, his disfiguring injuries, and his amazing physical and emotional recovery from his wounds. He repeatedly stressed that family, faith, and friends were essential throughout his ordeal, and he urged our Air Force men and women to strengthen those critical areas of their lives.
  
- B. The response was overwhelming. Mr. Roever's presentations were so powerful and uplifting that, at two separate locations, the site commander had to pause and compose himself before dismissing the crowd. Everywhere we went, dozens, in some cases hundreds, of people lined up to talk with Mr. Roever after his speech. I repeatedly overheard the comment, "I saw you once on TV (or at my high school), and I'll never forget what you had to say."

SUMMARY: Mr. Roever adjusted his schedule and volunteered his time so he could visit our people. I could not be more pleased with the results...It was especially gratifying to see so many young people in the audiences. Although Mr. Roever is from the Vietnam era, his gregarious and warm personality captivated their attention, challenged their patriotic spirits, and left them cheering in the stands.

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